

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MHMAUGHAN:AIC

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 174079 ACTION ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR
POSTS DATED 09 AUG 74

QUOTE

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INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE ON TRANSFER OF PRESIDENCY

1. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT POSTS WILL RECEIVE INNUMERABLE
QUERIES REGARDING THE TRANSFER OF THE PRESIDENCY OF
RICHARD NIXON TO GERALD FORD, THE FOLLOWING THEMES SHOULD
BE EMPHASIZED:

A) THAT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WILL STEADFASTLY SUPPORT
AND STAND BEHIND EXISTING UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL
COMMITMENTS;

B) THAT EVEN BEFORE HIS SWEARING-IN, PRES.-DESIGNATE FORD
SAID PUBLICLY HE WOULD CONTINUE "WITHOUT ANY HESITATION
OR RESERVATION" THE FOREIGN POLICIES OF HIS PREDECESSOR;
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C) ALSO BEFORE HIS SWEARING-IN AND AS FURTHER DEMONSTRATION OF HIS DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN CONTINUITY, THE PRES.-DESIGNATE ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO RETAIN DR. KISSINGER AS SECRETARY OF STATE;

D) OTHER GOVERNMENTS MAY BE REASSURED THAT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT ENGAGE IN ABRUPT CHANGES OF POLICY;

E) THAT LEADERS OF BOTH PARTIES OF CONGRESS HAVE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE MAIN OUTLINES OF THIS FOREIGN POLICY;

F) THAT PRESIDENTIAL AND/OR SECRETARIAL LETTERS STRESSING THE ABOVE IMPORTANT THEMES ARE GOING TO ALL GOVERNMENTS WITH WHOM WE HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS;

G) DESPITE THE CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP, THE FABRIC OF THE AMERICAN SYSTEM REMAINS INTACT AND SHOULD BE A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION TO ALL THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE STABILITY OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS.

2. POSTS SHOULD AVOID COMMENTING ON REASONS OR MOTIVES WHICH PROMPTED PRESIDENT NIXON TO RESIGN AND INSTEAD REFER ANY INTERESTED PARTIES TO THE TEXT OF HIS STATEMENT OF RESIGNATION WHICH WAS SENT TO YOU IN FULL VIA THE WIRELESS FILE. THIS IS A TIME WHEN WE MUST CONDUCT OURSELVES WITH GREAT DIGNITY. ANY COMMENTS WE MAKE SHOULD IN BOTH SPIRIT AND SUBSTANCE DEMONSTRATE TO THE WORLD THE UNITY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DURING THIS TRANSITION.

3. IN THE WEEKS AHEAD POSTS WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO DRAW ON STATEMENTS BY THE NEW PRESIDENT IN THIS GENERAL AREA. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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